



California NAF El Centro

Facility and Location

Naval Air Facility (NAF) El Centro is located in the Imperial Valley of California, six miles east of the town of Imperial. NAF El Centro provides training to active and reserve aviation units and activities of the Navy's operating and training forces. Squadrons visit NAF El Centro to practice gunnery, bombing, carrier landing, and air combat. The facility maintains and provides services and material to support operations of aviation activities, operation forces, and other activities.

Media Sampled and Findings

Drinking Water — In 2007, two of two samples detected perchlorate at 1.12 and 1.91 ppb. **Soil** — In 2009, one sample detected perchlorate at 1.1 ppb. Prior to 2007, 53 of 53 samples detected perchlorate from 1 to 43 ppb.

Wastewater — In 2007, one sample detected perchlorate at 5.58 ppb. Prior to 2007, one sample detected perchlorate at 8.35 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

Past samples are below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb, the California Maximum Contaminant Level for drinking water of 6 ppb, or the EPA Region IX soil screening levels of 55,000 ppb residential and 720,000 ppb industrial soil screening levels recommended by EPA Region IX.

NAF El Centro will perform annual regulatory testing in support of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act which is currently in the Feasibility Study stage at Site 1. A single risk based response action for perchlorate in groundwater originating from Site 1 and migrating to Site 2 will be considered. A pilot study is in the planning stages which will test various methods of in-situ biological treatment of perchlorate.